

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/510,464
Reply to Office Action dated November 19, 2007

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A packaging and display box (100) for an osteosynthesis kit (10), said osteosynthesis kit (10) comprising at least one plate (12) and at least one osteosynthesis screw (14), wherein the box comprises a bottom portion (110) and at least one lid portion (120), said bottom portion comprising a bottom wall (112) and a side wall (114) upwardly extending the bottom wall (112) around its entire periphery, thereby defining a storage space (130), functional means (160) making said lid portion (120) movable relative to said bottom portion between an open position and a closed position, wherein said box ~~further comprises~~ includes reversible closure means (170) placed on said bottom portion (110) and on said lid portion (120) and suitable for co-operating in said closed position, ~~and wherein said box further comprises~~ housing means (140) for housing said osteosynthesis kit (10), said housing means (140) being suitable for being held in said storage space (130) and comprising at least one insert (142, 144, 146), said housing means being provided with at least one cavity (142) for receiving at least one osteosynthesis plate (12) and at least one cell (144a, 144a') for receiving at least one osteosynthesis screw (12) ; and wherein said box includes a heat-sealable film enclosing said storage space.
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 1, wherein said cavity (142) includes a support face (142a) for supporting said osteosynthesis plate (12), which face is provided with hollow zones (142b, 142b').

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3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 2, wherein said support face (142a) is also provided with projecting zones (142e).
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 3, wherein said support face for supporting said osteosynthesis plate is provided with ribs (142e) and with grooves (142b).
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 1, wherein said cavity (142) includes a support face (142a) for supporting said osteosynthesis plate (12), which face is provided with retaining means (142b, 141) for co-operating reversibly with said osteosynthesis plate (12).
6. (CANCELLED)
7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 1, wherein said face of the bottom wall (112) facing away from said storage space (130) is provided with an identification medium (180) carrying information relating to said osteosynthesis kit (10).
8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 1, wherein said housing means are formed by a one-piece insert (140).
9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 1, wherein said housing means comprise at least one first insert (140) including said cavity (142), and at least one second insert (144) including said cell (144a).
10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 9, wherein said housing means further comprise a third insert (146) defining at least one cell (144a) for receiving an osteosynthesis screw (14).

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11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 1, wherein said cell (144a, 144a') is formed by a hollow recess of shape that is complementary to said screw (14) so that the head of the screw (14) is situated in the opening (144d) of said recess.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 11, wherein said hollow recess (144a') presents a longitudinal direction going from its opening (144d') to its bottom (144e'), said longitudinal direction being inclined relative to said bottom wall (112) so that the distance between the bottom (144e') and the opening (144d') of said hollow recess (144a') is longer than the height of the side wall (114) of said bottom portion (110).

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 1, wherein said lid portion (120) is at least partially transparent.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A box (100) according to claim 13, wherein said lid portion (120) is provided with a magnifying glass (122) integrated in its wall.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A protective unit (200) comprising a packaging and display box (100) ~~according to claim 1 together with~~ for an osteosynthesis kit, said osteosynthesis kit comprising at least one plate and at least one osteosynthesis screw, wherein the box includes a bottom portion and at least one lid portion, said bottom portion comprising a bottom wall and a side wall upwardly extending the bottom wall around its entire periphery, thereby defining a storage space, functional means making said lid portion movable relative to said bottom portion between an open position and a closed position, wherein said box includes: reversible closure means placed on said bottom portion and on said lid portion and suitable for co-operating in said closed position; housing means for housing said osteosynthesis kit, said housing means being suitable for being held in said storage space and comprising at least one insert, said housing means being provided with at least one cavity for receiving at least one osteosynthesis plate and at least one cell for receiving at least one osteosynthesis screw; wherein

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said protective unit includes a tray (240) defining housing suitable for receiving said packaging and display box (100) and provided with a heat-sealable film (220) closing said housing.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A protective unit (200) according to claim 15, wherein it further comprises a protective and packaging case (230) suitable for surrounding said tray (240).

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A protective unit (200) according to claim 16, wherein said protective and packaging tray (230) carries means (240) for visually identifying the type of osteosynthesis kit (10) contained in said packaging and display box (100).

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A protective unit (200) according to claim 15, wherein said protective case (230) comprises a bottom portion and a lid portion that are movable relative to each other between an open position and a closed position, and in that said protective case further comprises reversible closure means disposed on said bottom portion and on said lid portion and suitable for co-operating in said closed position.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A display chest (300) for distributing osteosynthesis kits (10), the display chest comprising a bottom portion (310) fitted with compartments (310a) ~~each for receiving a respective unit (200) according to claim 18, and, wherein at least one~~ compartment includes a protective unit (200) comprising a packaging and display box for an osteosynthesis kit, said osteosynthesis kit comprising at least one plate and at least one osteosynthesis screw, wherein the box includes a bottom portion and at least one lid portion, said bottom portion comprising a bottom wall and a side wall upwardly extending the bottom wall around its entire periphery, thereby defining a storage space, functional means making said lid portion movable relative to said bottom portion between an open position and a closed position; reversible closure means placed on said bottom portion and on said lid portion and suitable for co-operating in said closed position; and housing means for housing said osteosynthesis kit, said housing means being suitable for being held in said storage space and comprising at least one

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insert, said housing means being provided with at least one cavity for receiving at least one osteosynthesis plate and at least one cell for receiving at least one osteosynthesis screw, said protective unit further comprising a tray defining housing suitable for receiving said packaging and display box and provided with a heat-sealable film closing said housing, wherein said display chest includes at least one lid portion (320a, 320b) movable relative to said bottom portion (310) and designed to close in reversible manner at least part of the space (330) defined by the bottom portion (310).